

- 1        1.     A point of sale terminal arrangement, comprising in combination:  
2                a television set-top box having an internal programmed processor;  
3                a display coupled to the set-top box for displaying output from the set-top  
4     box;  
5                an input device suitable for providing input commands to the set-top box;  
6                a database operatively coupled to the internal programmed processor, the  
7     database comprising a catalog of merchandise available for purchase by a  
8     consumer; and  
9                catalog program means, operating on the programmed processor, for  
10     permitting a consumer to search the database for merchandise.  
11  
12        2.     The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising order entry program  
13     means, operating on the programmed processor, for permitting a consumer to  
14     enter an order for merchandise appearing in the catalog of merchandise.  
15  
16        3.     The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a swipe card reader  
17     coupled to the programmed processor to permit the consumer to enter a swipe  
18     card to effect payment for merchandise appearing in the catalog of merchandise.  
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20        4.     The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the input device comprises a  
21     keyboard.  
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1        5.     The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the display comprises a  
2 television display.

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4        6.     The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the display comprises a high  
5 definition television display.

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7        7.     The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the database resides on a  
8 storage device situated within the set-top box, and further comprising a connection  
9 to a catalog server, to thereby download updates of the catalog of merchandise to  
10 the database.

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12       8.     The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the database resides on a  
13 catalog server, coupled to the set-top box via a cable television connection.

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15       9.     The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a printer coupled to  
16 the set-top box.

17  
18       10.    The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for receiving  
19 updates to the database on a periodic basis.

1 11. A point of sale terminal arrangement, comprising in combination:  
2 a digital television set-top box having an internal programmed processor;  
3 a high definition television display coupled to the set-top box for displaying  
4 output from the set-top box;  
5 a keyboard suitable for providing input commands to the set-top box;  
6 a storage device situated within the set-top box;  
7 a database residing on the storage device and operatively coupled to the  
8 internal programmed processor, the database comprising a catalog of merchandise  
9 available for purchase by a consumer;  
10 means for receiving updates to the database on a periodic basis;  
11 catalog program means, operating on the programmed processor, for  
12 permitting a consumer to search the database for merchandise;  
13 order entry program means, operating on the programmed processor, for  
14 permitting a consumer to enter an order for merchandise appearing in the catalog  
15 of merchandise;  
16 a swipe card reader coupled to the programmed processor to permit the  
17 consumer to enter a swipe card to effect payment for merchandise appearing in the  
18 catalog of merchandise;  
19 a cable modem coupled to a catalog server, to thereby download updates  
20 of the catalog of merchandise to the database; and  
21 a printer coupled to the set-top box.  
22

12. A point of sale terminal arrangement, comprising in combination:

- a digital television set-top box having an internal programmed processor;
- a high definition television display coupled to the set-top box for displaying output from the set-top box;
- a keyboard suitable for providing input commands to the set-top box;
- a cable modem coupled the programmed processor to access a catalog server;
- means for receiving updates to the database on a periodic basis
- a storage device situated within a catalog server accessible by the set-top box using the cable modem;
- a database residing on the storage device and operatively coupled to the internal programmed processor, the database comprising a catalog of merchandise available for purchase by a consumer;
- means for receiving updates to the database on a periodic basis;
- catalog program means, operating on the programmed processor, for permitting a consumer to search the database for merchandise;
- order entry program means, operating on the programmed processor, for permitting a consumer to enter an order for merchandise appearing in the catalog of merchandise;

- 1 a swipe card reader coupled to the programmed processor to permit the
- 2 consumer to enter a swipe card to effect payment for merchandise appearing in the
- 3 catalog of merchandise; and
- 4 a printer coupled to the set-top box.

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